

Double Shell Closure with Support Ribs  
Serial No.: 09/876,336  
Atty. Docket #: CG- 838

c. at least one annular inner skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said inner skirt having a first surface which faces inward toward the center of the skirt and a second surface which faces outward toward said outer skirt;

a<sup>1</sup> d. at least one rib, depending from said top and attached to the outward facing surface of said inner skirt;

c. said at least one rib having a width less than a distance between said inner skirt and said outer skirt.

a<sup>2</sup> 2. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and said rib is the same length as said inner skirt.

a<sup>2</sup> 4. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said inner skirt has a diameter that is less than the bottom diameter of said outer skirt and said closure further includes an annular flange depending from the interior surface of said top and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said flange having a diameter that is smaller than the diameter of said inner skirt.

Please cancel claim 7 ✓

8. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said inner skirt.

a<sup>3</sup> 9. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said outer skirt.

10. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is shorter than the length of said inner skirt.

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11. (once amended) The closure of Claim 1 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is shorter than the length of said outer skirt.

12. (once amended) A container closure comprising:

- a. a top, having an interior surface and an exterior surface;
- b. an annular outer skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said outer skirt having a first face which faces inward toward the center of said outer skirt, a second face which faces outward from said skirt, a top edge which abuts said top, and a bottom edge, and said outer skirt having a first diameter at the top edge of the outward face and a second diameter at the bottom edge of the outward face wherein said top diameter is greater than said bottom diameter causing said outer skirt to have a frusto-conical configuration on the exterior surface;
- c. an annular inner skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said inner skirt having a first surface which faces inward toward the center of the skirt and a second surface which faces outward toward said outer skirt;
- d. at least one thread attached to the inward facing surface of said inner skirt; and,
- e. at least one vertical rib, depending from said top and attached to the outward facing surface of said inner skirt and having a width less than a distance between an outer skirt and an inner skirt.

13. (once amended) The closure of Claim 12 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and said rib is the same length as said inner skirt.

15. (once amended) The closure of Claim 12 wherein said inner skirt has a diameter that is less than

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a4 the bottom diameter of said outer skirt and said closure further includes an annular flange depending from the interior surface of said top and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said flange having a diameter that is smaller than the diameter of said inner skirt.

Please cancel claim 17.

18. (once amended) The closure of Claim 17 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said inner skirt.

19. (once amended) The closure of Claim 17 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said outer skirt.

20. (once amended) The closure of Claim 12 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is shorter than the length of said inner skirt.

a5 21. (once amended) The closure of Claim 12 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is shorter than the length of said outer skirt.

Sub 22. (once amended) A container closure comprising:

- a. a top, having an interior surface and an exterior surface;
- b. an annular outer skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said outer skirt having a first face which faces inward toward the center of said outer skirt, a second face which faces outward from said skirt, a top edge which abuts said top, and a bottom edge, and said outer skirt having a first diameter at the top edge of the outward face and a second diameter at the bottom edge of the outward face wherein said top diameter is greater than said bottom

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diameter causing said outer skirt to have a frusto-conical configuration on the exterior surface;

- c. an annular inner skirt, depending from and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said inner skirt having a first surface which faces inward toward the center of the skirt and a second surface which faces outward toward said outer skirt;
- d. at least one thread attached to the inward facing surface of said inner skirt; and
- e. at least one rib, depending from said top and extending radially along said top to said outer skirt, said rib also being attached to the outward facing surface of said inner skirt;

f. said at least one rib having a first axial dimension at said inner skirt and a second axial dimension at said outer skirt, said first axial dimension being less than said second axial dimension.

23. (once amended) The closure of Claim 22 wherein said inner skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said inner skirt.

24. (once amended) The closure of Claim 22 wherein said outer skirt defines a length and at least part of said rib is the same length as said outer skirt.

27. (once amended) The closure of Claim 22 wherein said inner skirt has a diameter that is less than the bottom diameter of said outer skirt and said closure further includes an annular flange depending from the interior surface of said top and being centered on the interior surface of said top, said flange having a diameter that is smaller than the diameter of said inner skirt.

### REMARKS

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 10-12, 14, 16, 17, 20-22, and 25-26